



August 16, 2013

Editor
The Savannah Morning News
Savannah, GA

Dear Sir:

As commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation, it was difficult for me to read yesterday's *Morning News* editorial regarding the construction of the new Diamond Causeway Bridge across Skidaway Narrows.

Regrettably, it was no less difficult to find fault with the editorial's account of the several issues that have troubled this project or in the Skidaway Island community's resultant exasperation with Georgia DOT and its contractor.

There is little value in my recounting here the details and explanations of each misstep. Georgia DOT, working with our contractors, takes pride in our work. We are a national leader in on time delivery of construction projects, but this clearly has not been our best example. Simply put, it has been unacceptable. The Department is responsible...and I am ultimately responsible. I apologize – to State Senator Buddy Carter and State Representative Ben Watson who both have aggressively pushed for a resolution – and of course to the residents of Skidaway Island and all citizens of Savannah and Chatham County.

Soon you will have a safe, modern bridge across the Narrows, a bridge that will well serve your community for decades to come. Attaining it should not have been this difficult.

Sincerely,

Keith Golden
Commissioner